



**U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION
Baltimore District Office**

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July 2, 2003

VIA FACSIMILE AND U.S. MAIL

David L. Gollin, Esq.
Wolf, Block, Schorr and Solis-Cohen, LLP
1650 Arch St., 22nd Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2097

Re: EEOC and Kathy Koch v. LA Weight Loss, Case No. WDQ-02-CV-648

Dear David:

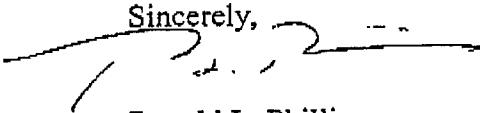
The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC") has reviewed your client's proposed Confidentiality Stipulation and Order. Enclosed you will find a modified version of that Order setting forth the revisions required by the EEOC. The highlighted portions of the Order constitute language that the EEOC requires be deleted, and bracketed portions in bold font constitute language that the EEOC requires be inserted.

In addition, the EEOC has received your client's letter dated June 25, 2003, regarding potential settlement of this matter. The EEOC is currently reviewing your client's proposal and request for a settlement meeting and anticipates that it will tender a response in the near future.

Finally, the EEOC has yet to receive any dates regarding the party and non-party witness depositions discussed in the EEOC's June 10, 2003 letter to your client and in prior correspondence and conversations. This is not acceptable. Please note that if the EEOC does not receive satisfactory dates of availability from counsel and your client by Monday, July 7, 2003, the agency will select dates without further consultation with your client, serve notices of deposition regarding the party witnesses, and cause to be issued subpoenas regarding the non-party witnesses.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter, please feel free to call me at (410) 962-4628, or Tracy Hudson Spicer, Supervisory Trial Attorney, at (410) 962-4623.

Sincerely,


Ronald L. Phillips
Trial Attorney

cc: Kelly Culp Hoelzer, Esq.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY)
COMMISSION,)
Plaintiff,)
and) Case No. WDQ-02-CV-648
KATHY C. KOCH,)
Plaintiff-Intervenor,)
v.)
LA WEIGHT LOSS,)
Defendant.)

JOINT CONFIDENTIALITY STIPULATION AND ORDER

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by the attorneys for plaintiff, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("plaintiff") and Kathy Koch ("plaintiff-intervenor") and LA Weight Loss ("defendant"), as follows:

1. This Stipulation (the "Stipulation") governs the handling of [Discovery] Documents, depositions and deposition exhibits, trial exhibits, interrogatory answers, responses to requests for production, responses to requests to admit and other written, recorded, transcribed, computer or graphic matter ("Discovery Material") produced by or obtained from any party (the "Producing Person") during the proceedings of this action that is deemed confidential or that is designated confidential by any Producing Person ("Designating Person"). [The Stipulation shall not be construed to apply to Discovery Documents falling within any of the following enumerated categories: (1) Discovery Documents produced by a party whom is not also the Designating Person regarding such Material; (2) Discovery Documents produced in this action prior to entry of the Stipulation by the Court; and (3) Discovery Documents previously provided to the EEOC during its investigation of the events that are the subject matter of the

instant action.]

2. Any party or Producing Person may in good faith designate as "Confidential Matter" any Discovery [Documents] produced [by that party or Producing Person] in this case, to the extent such Discovery [Documents] [(a)] contains or reflects any non-public[,] confidential or proprietary information of or relating to a party, including without limitation, research, development, technical, financial or commercial information, personnel files and other employee or compensation data, internal management policy or procedure, employee relations, business plans, sales and marketing strategies or plans, operating procedures, know-how, training materials, trade secrets, intellectual property rights, development tools, methods, techniques, source and object code, pricing, inventions, product specifications, drawings, descriptions, computer software, models, samples, demonstrations, or sales, suppliers or customer information , or (2) constitutes income tax returns of persons for whom EEOC seeks relief in this action]. Confidential Matter shall include any Discovery Material designated "CONFIDENTIAL - FOR ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY."

3. Any party may designate as "CONFIDENTIAL" any Confidential Matter which that party reasonably and in good faith believes is confidential and which it would not normally reveal to others or would cause others to maintain in confidence. The parties may designate as "CONFIDENTIAL - FOR ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY" material or testimony that contains information of such [exceptional] sensitivity that the protections in this Stipulation for documents marked "CONFIDENTIAL" are inadequate, [and there is a substantial justification for so designating,] and shall be stamped or otherwise "CONFIDENTIAL - FOR ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY" by the Designating

Party.

4. All documents to be hereinafter produced in discovery proceedings otherwise that are stamped or described by the producing party [in a written notice to the parties] as "CONFIDENTIAL" shall be subject to the restrictions contained in paragraph 6 and the following restrictions:

(a) Such documents and the information contained therein shall be used only for the purpose of pre-trial procedures (including, but not limited to, motions and briefing), trial preparation, trial and appeals, subject to this Stipulation and not for any business or non-litigation related purpose whatsoever. [prosecution or defense of this litigation and not for any other purpose.]

(b) Such documents shall not be given, shown, made available, discussed or otherwise communicated in any way to anyone other than:

(i) the attorneys of record for the party or parties in this litigation to which such documents are produced, and the regular and temporary employees of such attorneys [or government agency] to whom it is necessary that the material be shown for purposes of the litigation; provided that the signature on this Stipulation of a member of a law firm acting as litigation counsel to a party shall constitute an agreement by all lawyers in, and regular or temporary employees of, that firm to be bound by the terms and conditions of this Stipulation;

(ii) experts or consultants retained by the attorneys of record for such party to assist in the preparation of this matter for litigation;

(iii) such inside counsel, directors, officers and employees of such party, or, in the case of a party who is an individual rather than a corporate entity

[or government agency], the individual party himself or herself, as are assisting in the preparation of this matter for litigation and to whom, in the opinion of the attorney in charge of the case for such party, it is necessary to the preparation of his case that such material be shown;

- (iv) the Court and its employees;
- (v) a non-party witness during the course of his or her deposition or trial testimony; and
- (vi) such other persons, and on such other terms and conditions, as the parties agree to in writing or as the Court, upon application, may order[; and]

(vii) [court reporters or deposition videographers.]

5. All documents to be hereinafter produced in discovery proceedings or otherwise that are stamped or described by the producing party as "CONFIDENTIAL - FOR ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY" shall be subject to the restrictions contained in paragraph 6 and the following restrictions:

- (a) Such documents and the information contained therein shall be used only for the purposes of pre-trial procedures (including, but not limited to, motions and briefing), trial preparation, trial and appeals, subject to this Stipulation, and not for any business or non-litigation related purpose whatsoever.
- (b) Such documents shall not be given, shown, made available, discussed or otherwise communicated in any way to anyone other than:
 - (i) the attorneys of record for the party or parties in this litigation to which such documents are produced, and the employees of such attorneys to whom it is necessary that the material be shown for purposes of the litigation; provided

that the signature on this Stipulation of a member of a law firm acting as litigation counsel to a party shall constitute an agreement by all lawyers in, and regular or temporary employees of, that firm to be bound by the terms and conditions of this Stipulation;

(ii) experts or consultants retained by the attorneys of record for such party to assist in the preparation of this matter for litigation;

(iii) the Court and its employees; and

(iv) such other persons, and on such other terms and conditions, as the parties agree to in writing or as the Court, upon application, may order.

6. Each person referred to in paragraph 4(b)(ii), 4(b)(v), [and] 4(b)(vi), 5(b)(ii), 5(b)(iv), shall agree to be bound by the terms of this Stipulation and, prior to viewing or discussion of the Confidential Matter [or confidential - for attorneys' eyes-only matter], shall consent to execute an agreement in the form annexed hereto as Exhibit A. The attorneys for the party to whom documentary production or other discovery is made in this action shall maintain a file of such written agreements and such file shall be made available on reasonable notice by the attorney for a producing party to the attorneys maintaining such file.

7. Such briefs, pleadings or other filings with the Court which incorporate or disclose Confidential Matters shall be filed under seal (labeled on the cover page "Confidential - Filed Under Seal"), if permitted by the Court, and any copies thereof shall be held in confidence as provided in this Stipulation. [In accordance with Local Rule 105(1.1),] All [a] documents filed under seal shall be kept so until the

Court orders otherwise. When Confidential Matter is incorporated in a transcript of a deposition, hearing, trial or other proceeding, any party claiming confidentiality shall arrange with the court reporter to bind the confidential portions of such portion of the transcript as "CONFIDENTIAL" or "CONFIDENTIAL - FOR ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY," as appropriate, and any copies thereof shall be held in confidence as provided in this Stipulation.

8. The inadvertent production of any information, document or thing without being marked "Confidential" shall not be deemed a waiver of any claim of confidentiality as to such matter, and the same may thereafter in good faith be designated as "Confidential." Each party reserves the right to re-designate as "CONFIDENTIAL" or "CONFIDENTIAL - FOR ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY" any document that it produces, or has already produced, or any information subject to the restrictions of paragraph 4 and 5; provided, however, that such re-designation shall be only effective as of the date of such re-designation. [In the event that a party fails to designate information as confidential at the time of production, the party shall have three (3) business days after such production to otherwise make the designation.]

9. This Stipulation is without prejudice to the right of any party to consent, subject to any limitations it may impose, to disclosure of its Confidential Matter to any other person.

10. When Confidential Matter will likely be presented, quoted or referred to in any deposition, hearing, trial or other proceeding, the party claiming confidentiality shall have the right to make arrangements to insure that only the persons who, in accordance with paragraph 4 and/or 5 herein would be permitted access to said Confidential Matter,

are present during said presentation, quotation, or reference. In the event that any Confidential Information is used in any court proceeding, it shall not lose its confidential status merely through such use in conformance with this Stipulation.

11. Any party hereto may, by notice prior to a deposition, or on the record of a deposition, or by written notice sent within 10 days after receipt of the deposition transcript, designate all or any portion of the deposition as and/or accompanying Discovery Materials, "Confidential" under the terms of this Stipulation. Until such 10-day period has expired, all deposition transcripts and/or accompanying Discovery Materials shall be deemed to constitute Confidential Discovery Material. All copies of deposition transcripts that contain Confidential Discovery Material shall be prominently marked "Confidential" on the cover thereof and, if and when filed with the Court, the transcript or the portions of such transcripts containing Confidential Discovery Material shall be filed under seal.

12. For documents produced and sent to the opposing party or made available for inspection by the opposing party, any objections to a party's designation of Confidential Matter as "CONFIDENTIAL" will occur as follows:

- (a) The receiving party may at any time object to the designation of Confidential Matter as "CONFIDENTIAL." Should the parties be unable informally to resolve such objection, then the producing party shall make a motion on notice to all parties to this action.
- (b) The producing party shall have the burden of demonstrating that the confidential designation was proper under the terms of this Stipulation and under law.
- (c) Any Discovery Material that has been designated

"CONFIDENTIAL" and for which such designation has not been waived shall be treated as confidential until such time as the Court orders that such material should not be treated as confidential.

13. For documents produced and sent to the opposing party or made available for inspection by the opposing party, any objections to a party's designation of Confidential Matter as "CONFIDENTIAL - FOR ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY" will occur as follows:

(a) The receiving party may at any time object to the designation of Confidential Matter as "CONFIDENTIAL - FOR ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY." Should the parties be unable informally to resolve such objection, then the producing party shall make a motion on notice to all parties to this action:

(b) The producing party shall have the burden of demonstrating that the "CONFIDENTIAL - FOR ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY" designation was proper under the terms of this Stipulation.

(c) Any Discovery Material that has been designated "CONFIDENTIAL - FOR ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY" and for which such designation has not been waived shall be treated as "CONFIDENTIAL - FOR ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY" until such time as the Court orders that such material should not be treated as "CONFIDENTIAL - FOR ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY." [The party seeking discovery will have the right to challenge the designation of any documents marked confidential and shall do so by giving notice to the opposing party within twenty (20) days of the receipt of said confidential documents. The burden of proving confidentiality shall remain with the party asserting confidentiality.]

14. For documents that are made available for inspection by the opposing party, they shall be produced as follows:

(a) The producing party shall physically separate documents designated as "CONFIDENTIAL" or "CONFIDENTIAL - FOR ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY."

(b) The producing party shall notify the attorneys for the other party when the documents have been separated in accordance with subparagraph (a) so that the inspecting party may arrange to inspect and copy the documents.

15. Within sixty (60) days after the conclusion of this litigation, including appeals, all Confidential Information shall be returned to the Producing Person, or, in the alternative, destroyed and certified in writing to the Producing Person and/or the Designating Person to have been destroyed; provided that lead counsel for each party shall be entitled to retain one copy of all litigation documents, including exhibits, deposition transcripts and exhibits thereto, and their own briefs or memoranda containing Confidential Information, but such litigation documents shall be used only for the purpose of preserving a file in this matter, and shall not, without the written permission of the Producing Person or an order of this Court except with respect to litigation between the parties, be disclosed to anyone.

16. Anything herein to the contrary notwithstanding, within fifteen (15) days of the date of this Order, any party may designate documents produced prior to this Order as Confidential within any of the categories of confidentiality specified above in paragraph 4 or 5.

17. After the conclusion of this litigation, this Stipulation, insofar as it

restricts the communication and use of the documents produced hereunder, shall, without written permission of each party and any Producing Person, continue to be binding upon the parties hereto and upon all persons to whom Confidential Discovery Material has been disclosed or communicated, and the Court shall retain jurisdiction over the parties and all such persons for enforcement of its provisions. **[The terms of this Stipulation and Order shall survive any final disposition of this case, absent an Order by the Court or agreement by the parties.]**

18. **The attorneys for the parties shall exert their best efforts to raise any claims of privilege or attorney work product prior to the disclosure of any allegedly privileged materials or information. The inadvertent production of any documents or things by any party shall be without prejudice to any subsequent claim by the producing party that such material is privileged or attorney work product. If, after materials are disclosed, a producing party raises a claim that materials are protected by the attorney-client privilege or work product doctrine or any other applicable privilege or protection, the receiving party shall not make any use of the contested material, and any such discovery material shall be treated as privileged until such time as the Court orders that such material should not be treated as privileged.**

19. **Nothing in this Stipulation shall be construed to affect either the discoverability or admissibility at trial of any document or thing, nor shall any party's assent to this Stipulation be deemed to waive that party's right to object to the production of documents and things on appropriate grounds, to move to compel the production of documents and things wrongfully withheld from production, to assert appropriate privileges and immunities in response to discovery requests, or to seek additional**

protection or other modification of this Stipulation by subsequent order of the Court.

20. This Stipulation governs confidentiality only for purposes of discovery among the parties and use of discoverable information and documents in court filings. Neither assent to this Stipulation nor assent to any designation of confidentiality thereunder shall be construed to act as an admission by any of the parties on the merits of the underlying litigation. [The provisions of this Order will not affect the admissibility of evidence at the trial or during any preliminary evidentiary proceeding absent separate Order by the Court.]

21. Nothing in this Stipulation shall bar or otherwise restrict any of the attorneys for the parties from rendering advice with respect to this litigation to the party or parties for which such attorneys have appeared of record in this matter and, in the course thereof, referring to or relying generally upon their examination of documents produced to them in this matter, provided, however, that in rendering such advice and in otherwise communicating with such client, the attorney shall not disclose the specific content of any document produced or other production made by another party herein if such disclosure would be contrary to the terms of this Stipulation.

22. This Stipulation has no effect upon, and its scope shall not extend to, any Producing Person's use of his, or her, or its own Confidential Discovery Material.

23. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as conferring, by implication, estoppel or otherwise, any license or right in respect of any Confidential Information and/or intellectual property right.

24. In the event any additional person becomes a party to this litigation, neither such party, such party's counsel nor any expert or consultant retained to assist

such counsel shall have access to Confidential Discovery Material produced by or obtained from any other Producing Person until said party's counsel has executed a copy of this Stipulation.

25. This Stipulation supplements but does not supersede or amend any agreement of common law, statutory or other obligation relating to confidentiality previously entered into by any of the parties.

26. This Stipulation may be executed by the parties hereto in separate counterparts, all of which shall together constitute one and the same instrument.

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27. [This Stipulation shall be construed in an manner consistent with federal law and shall not be construed to require confidentiality regarding, or restrict dissemination of, any discovery material or information if, and to the extent, that such disclosure or dissemination to any person or entity is required by federal law.]

28. This Stipulation shall remain in force and effect and shall not be modified, superseded, or terminated except by express written consent of the parties or by Order of the Court after notice to the parties.

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Dated: June ___, 2003

Attorneys for Defendant LA Weight Loss

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Baltimore, MD 21202
(410) 347-7353

Dated: June ___, 2003

Attorney for Intervenor/Plaintiff

Tracy Hudson Spicer
Supervisory Trial Attorney
U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
Baltimore District Office
10 South Howard Street, 3rd Floor
Baltimore, MD 21202
(410) 962-4623

Dated: June ___, 2003

Attorney for Plaintiff

APPROVED AND SO ORDERED
this ____ day of June, 2003:

, U.S.D.J.

EXHIBIT A

CERTIFICATE OF CONFIDENTIALITY

I, _____, declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States, that:

29. My address is

30. My present employer is

31. My present occupation or job description is

I HEREBY CERTIFY AND AGREE: that I have read and understand [and agree to abide by] the terms of the Stipulated Protective Order ("Stipulation") in the matter of the *Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and Kathy Koch v. LA Weight Loss*, United States District Court for the District of Maryland, Civil Action No. [WDQ-02-CV-648] S02-CV-643, that I will not use or disclose to anyone any of the contents of any Confidential Information received under the protection of the Stipulation, and I agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of the Stipulation.

I understand that I am to retain all copies of any of the materials that I receive which have been designated as Confidential Information in a container, cabinet, drawer, room or other safe place in a manner consistent with this Stipulation, and that all copies are to remain in my custody until I have completed my assigned or legal duties, whereupon the copies are to be returned or destroyed as specified in the Stipulation. I

acknowledge that such return or the subsequent destruction of such materials shall not relieve me from any of the continuing obligations imposed upon me by the Stipulation.

I hereby submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the District of Maryland for purposes of enforcement of the terms of the Stipulation and of this Certificate of Confidentiality.

(Date)

(Signature)